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TRICOUNTY AGENCY for INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES, INC.
WALKER, FAYETTE AND LAMAR COUNTIES

LOCAL PLANNING FOR 2011 – 2013

The mission statement of TriCounty Agency for Intellectual Disabilities includes striving for appropriate, quality services to be available and accessible to persons with developmental disabilities throughout their lifespan. Services will be consumer and family driven, proactive, creative and responsive to the needs of the individual.

The vision of the organization is to have a service delivery system designed to provide a wide array of service options which can be tailored to the needs of the individual and family. By providing community-based services, family unity with community support systems will enhance the quality of life for citizens with developmental disabilities in the Walker, Fayette and Lamar County areas.

TriCounty Agency for Intellectual Disabilities is a 310 Board that serves persons aged three years throughout their lifetime that have an intellectual/developmental disability and reside in Walker, Fayette or Lamar County. Infants and toddlers from birth to three years of age with a developmental delay/disability and reside in Fayette or Lamar county are served through the TriCounty Early Intervention program.

***Case Management* is the primary service provided by the agency for approximately one hundred seventy five persons. Some personal care services are provided by the agency. Through subcontract arrangements, additional personal care, day habilitation and residential habilitation services are provided for approximately sixty individuals. Advocacy, and the promotion of self-advocacy, is included in all efforts and activities.**

Annually, each individual receiving services through TriCounty Agency for Intellectual Disabilities, has a person-centered plan meeting. All persons that have a stake in the well being, health, safety and happiness of the individual are invited to participate or contribute if the consumer so desires. At the meeting, the needs, wants and desires of the individual are discussed, what works and what doesn't work for the individual and goals and objectives are developed for the coming year. The individual and family are also reminded of all the local providers of the services they require and given the choice of provider. Additional meetings during the year are scheduled, if needed.

Needs assessments of the individual are determined by input from the person, family, friends, service provider staff, medical evaluation, face-to-face monitoring at program locations and the home, and Case Management interaction. Interviews, informal discussions and observation are invaluable to the needs assessment process. Upon ascertaining the needs of the person, the individual and team initiate a plan of action.

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The needs assessment of TriCounty Agency for Intellectual Disabilities and the community it serves is derived at by compiling information from the above mentioned consumer planning meetings, staff meetings, direct care service providers, family members, citizens of the community and our Board of Directors. Through our Quality Enhancement program, consumer surveys provide additional information regarding satisfaction with services. Committees on health and safety, rights and responsibilities, quality reviews and inservice education make recommendations regarding policies and procedures that will enable a constant high level of care for those we serve.

The stakeholders that interact with TriCounty Agency for Intellectual Disabilities include primarily, and always first, the individual we serve and their family or primary caregiver. We collaborate with other service providers, the medical community, the educational community, places of worship, civic groups, law enforcement, recreational facilities, local businesses, governmental entities and the general community of citizens. All of these have, at one time or another, been involved in the life of the individual.

Areas of unmet need:

Emergency respite authorization

Inadequate number of Medicaid waiver slots. No new this past year.

Difficulty getting persons deemed eligible for waiting list.

Funding for summer program for school-aged children.

Communication between regional, central and local needs improving.

Goals:

1. Apply for grants to support summer program for children with disabilities.
Objective: To provide continuation of learning opportunities when school is not in session.
2. Correspond with legislators regarding the needs of individuals with disabilities.
Objective: Educate and bring attention to the needs.
3. Assist individuals with self advocacy.
Objective: In order that their voices be heard.
4. Serve additional individuals from the waiting list.
Objective: To interrupt the stagnant waiting list and provide needed services.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

TriCounty Agency for Intellectual Disabilities case managers monitor continuously for quality and quantity of services being provided. Monitoring also determines satisfaction with services. The agency is monitored and evaluated regularly by the regional office staff, AL DMH Office of Certification, Life Safety Inspector and AL Medicaid. Findings of all evaluations are reported to Board of Directors and plan of correction is enacted when indicated.

Funding Resources: Medicaid
AL DMH
Walker Area Community Foundation
Private Donors on occasion